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The Spectator

Thursday, October 3, 2019

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Number V

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

College sees historic turnout for Fallcoming and Family Weekend

by Matthew Surprenant '22
Contributing Writer

Over this year's Fallcoming and Family weekend of Sept. 27-29, as the air began to chill and the trees started to favor their autumn hues, many students of Hamilton College were visited by some familiar faces. There were a great many parents present but also a fair few close friends, alumni, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and great-grandparents who all came out to be part of the festivities. All in all, 1,600 parents, alumni, and family members visited campus.

The fine weather provided an excellent backdrop for some of the athletic events that took place over the weekend. Various Continentals teams butted heads with opponents from Colby College in a series of sporting events that packed the stands. In football, the team secured a decisive, hard-fought victory by a score of 45-24. Men's soccer also took home a win in a grueling match that ended in double overtime with a 1-0 victory. Not to be outdone, women's soccer earned their own 5-1 win, though they managed to score all their goals in regulation. Field hockey nearly sealed a perfect weekend but ultimately fell to Colby by one goal in overtime.

Beyond athletics, there were also a number of events for the arts-and-entertainment-inclined that showcased student and professional performers. On Friday Sept. 27, the College was host to an hour of jazz music from the Clarinetist Evan Christopher and the rest of his band. On Saturday, Sept. 28, Hamilton students and their families were treated to a fresh rendition of Shakespeare's classic play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, presented by Bare Naked Theatre. Also on Saturday were readings of award-winning student creative writing pieces in the Burke Library. Finally, the Alloy Orchestra performed a live musical accompaniment to the Fritz Lang's genre-defining science fiction silent movie *Metropolis*, which drew a full house.

One parent who attended the Alloy Orchestra/*Metropolis* show said, "This was the first silent movie I had ever seen, as they were kind of before my time, but I really enjoyed it regardless."

He added that "having worked in a mill when I was a teenager, the mechanical-sounding music that Alloy orchestra performed really captured that sense of metallic rhythm of the film's factories."

Another parent attendee said, "I have to say I really liked the scenes in the jazz club, especially when the film would cut from the trouble in the factories to the overwhelming noise of the jazz club."

Asked what he thought of the weekend as a whole, he said, "It's been fun, getting to see my student here, catching up, and seeing how he's doing. Overall it's been great to go to all these events."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/NANCY L. FORD

Alumni, family, and friends cheer on the football team during their 45-24 victory over the Colby College Mules on Saturday, Sept. 28.

The weekend also featured a number of fundraising events on campus for student organizations hoping to gain some financial support for their respective clubs and causes. One of the noteworthy fundraising tables present over the weekend was the Microfinance Club's competition to guess the weight of an impressively grown gourd. Giving out cookies and calling passer-bys over, club representatives at the table promised a 32" flatscreen TV to whoever could guess the weight of the great pumpkins. On Saturday, the club announced in an all-campus email that they "received 299 guesses, raised a record $1512.50 and the pumpkin weighed 358.4 lbs!" The proceeds from the contest will be used to issue small business loans to local entrepreneurs.

Finally, on Sunday, families and close friends of Hamilton's student population exchanged goodbyes, gifts, and well-wishes to conclude a historic weekend for the College.

President Wippman delivers annual State of the College address

by Daniella Edwards '21
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, September 28, College President David Wippman gave his annual State of the College Address to parents and students as part of Fallcoming and Family Weekend.

To lighten the mood, President Wippman opened the Address with a fun video showcasing some of his interactions and relationships with students on campus while wearing an Alexander Hamilton costume. After the video ended, President Wippman gave the audience a brief snapshot of what he would discuss in the address, including the College's direction, as well as the state of its students, applicants, faculty, finances, and finally, mental health policies and initiatives.

In recent years, President Wippman said, the College has developed the campus rapidly by adding new buildings and facilities. Although these developments improve the physical layout of campus, they also shifts the focus away from the existing buildings that are fifty-plus years old. Recently, Wippman said, the College discovered that the Chapel steeple needs repairs. In addition to this important restoration, the College will begin remodeling the List Art Center in the upcoming year to house the Literature and Music Departments while other humanities buildings are updated.

After discussing infrastructure, Wippman shifted to discussing prospective student applications and the demographics of the student body. He happily relayed to the audience the steadily rising number of applications and subsequently lower acceptance rate, which was a record-low 16.4 percent for the Class of 2023.

Wippman said recent years have also shown that as the student applications increase, the diversity of the class year does as well. Since 2010, when the College became need-blind, the number of students of color has increased from 17 percent of the student body to 25 percent. Wippman attributed these outcomes in part to the work of the College's senior staff and trustees, as well as the better national recognition of the College for its academic programs.

To give the audience an idea of finances, President Wippman broke down how the College spends its money and where it comes from. Some of the top costs include financial aid, benefits and salary, and academic departments. Wippman emphasized the importance of these costs because they all include benefits for the people of the College. He also pointed out that these costs contribute to the rise of tuition costs because they support people and enhance the academic experience at Hamilton. In the financial breakdown of the College, tuition accounts for a little over half of the revenue, with philanthropy and the endowment falling close behind.

President Wippman closed his address with the issues that "keep him up at night," which included issues of mental health among the student body and the wider community. He cited the rising demand for counseling services, an effort the College has begun to focus on in the past several years.

To help find a solution to the problem, Wippman said the College has increased its services and number of counseling staff with the new health center and will continue to focus on how mental health conditions on the campus can improve.

One parent who attended the address said it "was super informative" and, as a parent, "[I] really appreciate it." She also thought that "approaching mental health right off the bat was so great and really important."

Overall, President Wippman's address communicated to the audience the challenges that the College faces, as well as the opportunities for the campus that come with them.

HamVotes estimates over 100 students register to vote as part of national effort

by Brian Seiter '22
Contributing Writer

On Sept. 24, National Voter Registration Day took place on the Hill and across the country. The day was first observed in 2012 and has grown in popularity every year since.

The aim of the day is to get as many people registered to vote prior to different state's registration deadlines. It also acts as an education tool for those who do not know they need to update their registration or how to register in the first place. In 2018, 800,000 voters were registered as part of National Voter Registration Day.

At Hamilton, the effort involved making registration forms available at four spots around campus—the Taylor Science Center, Commons Dining Hall, McEwen Dining Hall, and the Howard Diner. Students who completed the registration then dropped them off at the HamVotes table or the Student Activities Office, both located in the Sadove Student Center.

I spoke with the co-chairs of HamVotes — Amanda Kim '21 and Tatum Barclay '22 — about Voter Registration Day and their work in organizing it. Kim told me that while she does not have a definite number, she estimates that over 100 students registered to vote through HamVotes.

Although students were the majority of voters registered during the day at Hamilton, registration was not exclusive to them.

"I had one woman, I'm not sure if she was a community member or a professor, come and register at our table in Sadove," said Barclay. "This really made my day because I was able to see that our organization has a broad reach and is helping students, staff, faculty, and the community become registered to vote."

Kim spoke about the importance of helping people find the resources to register how to vote, saying, "Voting is extremely important. However, the act of registering to vote can be pretty daunting. Forms can be confusing and there are common misconceptions about how the process works. Being able to provide resources that make the process of registering to vote smoother is important in ensuring that people actually vote."

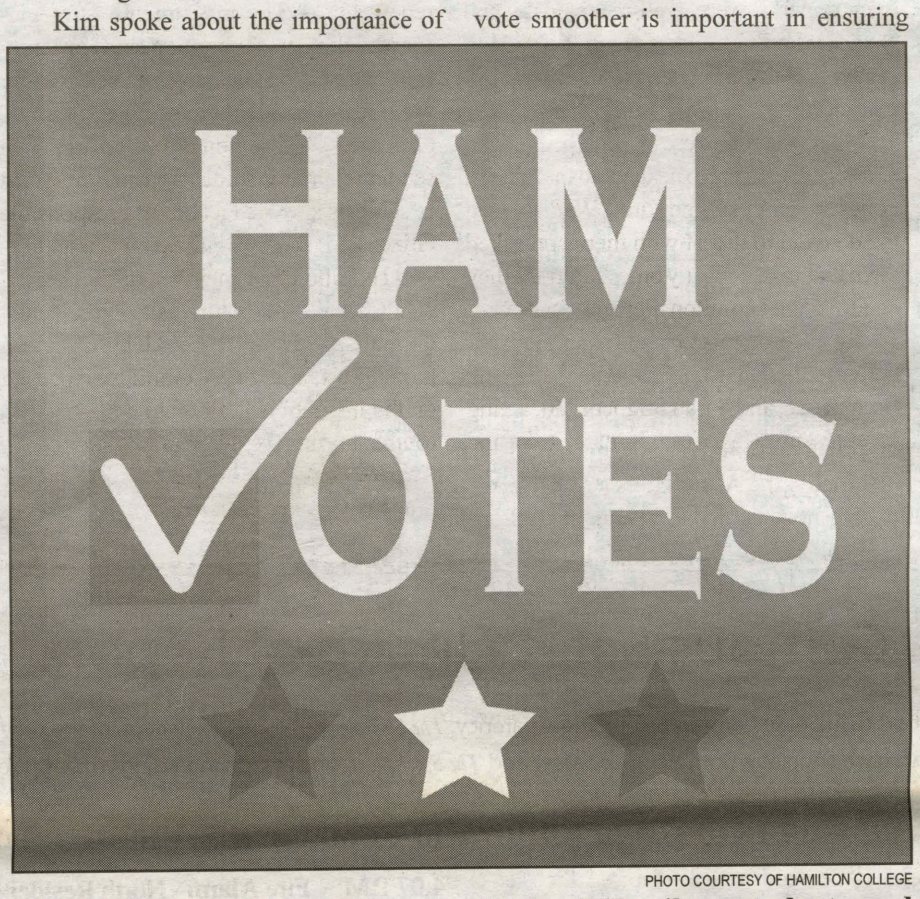

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

HamVotes is a nonpartisan committee of Hamilton students and administrators who seek to engage campus with the voting process.

Barclay echoed this sentiment, saying, "Registering people, specifically college students, is incredibly important because our government is built on representation, and in order for the wishes of the public to be represented in the government all citizens' voices must be heard on election day.

"College students are the future of our country and it is incredibly important for students to feel as though they have the agency to change their government, and the first step to having this agency is registering to vote."

Kim connected voter turnout with the importance of having a say in government. "Democracies can only function properly when as many people are speaking up as possible," she said. "It's important for everyone to have a voice and have a say in the state of our union. Without everyone's voices, governments cannot be truly representative."

Kim said she specifically cares about fostering a culture of voting at Hamilton, saying, "College isn't just about getting a degree or taking classes for your major. The true purpose of a college education is much broader than academia. College is about learning how to become a better-informed, better-educated, more well-rounded member of society. A huge part of that is being democratically engaged.

"By institutionalizing democratic engagement, Hamilton College is providing students with the real college experience."

Government Department hosts two-speaker panel on state of refugee policy

by Rosario Alarcon '22
Contributing Writer

This past Thursday, Sept. 26, the College hosted two guest speakers to discuss refugee policies under the Obama and Trump administrations. The first speaker was Anne C. Richard, who worked at the Peace Corps as Vice President of the International Rescue Committee, as Assistant Secretary of State for the Obama administration, and currently serves as the Linowitz Professor of International Affairs at Hamilton.

The second speaker, Shelly Callahan, works in nearby Utica as the Executive Director of the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees.

Richard began the talk by describing her position as Assistant Secretary of State, specifically her work with refugees. She said her three main roles were to manage overseas aid, diplomacy, and to resettle refugees. When President Obama took office, the number of refugees allowed in the United States was 70,000; this number later rose to 85,000. Before Obama left office, the number peaked at 110,000. President Trump, on the other hand, has lowered that number to 18,000 for the coming fiscal year.

Richard discussed the demands of her position as Assistant Secretary of State and how the ever-changing political world only emphasized a seemingly endless list of conflicts. Richard said she felt that no matter what refugee myth she would disprove, another excuse was ready in wait. She called this the "American tradition" of being afraid to welcome in the next wave of immigrants.

Callahan began her portion of the talk by discussing the importance of refugees in Utica. An influx of refugees from nations like Bosnia, Burma, Russia, and Nepal has revitalized a city that was in crisis due to a declining population in the 1980s and 1990s. Today, Callahan said, refugees make up at least 25 percent of Utica's population.

Callahan was passionate about her belief that people should be thanking refugees, not criminalizing them. Under Obama, she said, the relationship between refugees and the State Department was what she called a "partnership" rather than "adversarial" like it can seem today. She added that resettlement centers welcomed the increased refugee quotas under Obama, especially since employers were facing a shortage of workers and were glad to welcome additions to the labor force. This is no longer the case with the Trump administration.

Callahan mentioned that the greatest obstacle to welcoming refugees to America under the Trump administration is how "the ground is constantly shifting," making it almost impossible to plan for the future. As a result, resettlement centers throughout the country are far less utilized than they were under Obama.

Callahan said Trump encourages hate speech against refugees, which provides incentive for the public to do the same. Still, she expressed gratitude that New York State is in a position to "put some skin in the game," and through her and her colleagues' efforts, her agency has earned a $2 million grant for their work.

Callahan concluded by sharing that immigration to Utica is not a new trend; in the early 20th century, 30 percent of Utica's residents were foreign born.

After both of the speeches, students and faculty had the opportunity to ask questions of the speakers. Asked what advice she would give to students interested in working on issues related to refugees, Richard encouraged students to take the foreign service exam, saying it is a chance to give back to the community and could pave paths to other interesting organizations.

One student asked both speakers to compare current refugee policies to that of the Bush presidency, to which Richard and Callahan noted that this topic has only recently become controversial. Before Trump, they said, refugee policies had bipartisan support.

A resounding theme from the discussion was Richard and Callahan's call to action. Both are passionate about refugee aid and said they want students on the Hill to consider reaching out and helping in any way possible.

They outlined a list of actions students can take, such as writing to their elected representative, volunteering at the center, reaching out to relatives in different states, and writing letters to the editors of newspapers and asking them to increase their coverage on this topic.

Kim and Jeong present to Board of Trustees on sustainability issues

by Isabel Kierstead '21
Staff Writer

On Sept. 20, students and faculty of Hamilton College joined students around the world in a Climate Strike. At Hamilton, both students and professors spoke on the immense threat climate change poses to the world, including both current and future generations.

The efforts did not stop with the Climate Strike, however. During Fallcoming and Family Weekend from Sept. 27-29, students spoke to the Board of Trustees, the Chair of the Investment Committee, and College President Wippman regarding Hamilton College's efforts and responsibility in mitigating the climate crisis.

On Sept. 28, Student Assembly (SA) President Amanda Kim '21 and SA Vice President Jiin Jeong '21 presented to the Board of Trustees. The presentation covered SA's role in brainstorming tangible solutions to address climate change on the Hill, in addition to SA's recent achievements, upcoming goals, and the most pressing issues on campus.

Although Kim and Jeong were not present for the subsequent Board discussions following their presentation, they felt that their remarks were well-received by the Board, who they said realized the need to establish Hamilton as an environmentally-conscious institution.

"The trustees were extremely engaged and very interested to hear about the biggest issues on campus," said Kim. "We discussed the demand to divest with them and asked them to think about any other solutions they had to make Hamilton a greener campus."

In addition to Kim and Jeong's presentation to the Board, Mian Osumi '21, Jay Carhart '21, and Sarah Stigberg '20, acting as representatives of the Climate Strike and Sunrise Movement, met with the Chair of the Board, Chair of the Investment Committee, and President Wippman.

In 2017, the College released its Climate Action Plan, which seeks to "provide a framework for reducing carbon emissions with the ultimate goal of being carbon neutral." The plan outlines the College's goals to be carbon-neutral by 2050 and sets forth renewable energy investments, strategies for recycling, transportation, and conservation, and heating and cooling guidelines for facilities. The plan's executive summary also states, "Education efforts are aimed at sending Hamilton students out into the world to serve as knowledgeable and responsible citizens engaged with the environment."

Hamilton is a member of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) and has a Sustainability Committee focused on the institution's efforts to curb its environmental impact. Skenandoa House, the Kirner-Johnson Building, and the Sadove Student Center are all run on renewable energy. Additionally, building renovation projects have focused on transitioning other aspects of campus infrastructure to renewable sources of energy.

"I think the College recognizes the need for climate action. In terms of actual action itself, there's definitely more we can do," said Kim. "Having a plan is great, but the planet needs action. We can't afford to not follow through."

Brian Hanson, the College's Director of Environmental Protection and Safety, leads the Sustainability Committee. Next week, he and the Committee will publish an extensive review of their mission and goals for campus. Hanson hopes this review will also provide the opportunity for the Hamilton community to become involved in the institution's efforts to tackle climate crises.

Hanson says he is optimistic about Hamilton's steps towards making information related to its sustainability efforts more transparent.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, September 26

10:32 A.M. Fire Alarm – ABC House
6:13 P.M. Fire Alarm – Woolcott Residence
8:38 P.M. Complaint – North Campus
11:26 P.M. Noise Complaint – List Art Center

Friday, September 27

8:50 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Ferguson Residence
3:53 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
4:17 P.M. Area Check – North Campus
4:53 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
5:05 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
7:11 P.M. Parking Complaint – 95 College Hill Road
8:57 P.M. Assist – Bundy Circle
11:17 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Bundy East Residence Hall

Saturday, September 28

12:46 A.M. Medical Emergency – Milbank Residence Hall
1:13 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
3:21 A.M. Noise Complaint – Milbank Residence
11:09 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Residence Hall
11:18 P.M. Noise Complaint – Milbank Residence Hall
11:29 P.M. Area Check – Dunham Residence Hall
11:49 P.M. Trouble Alarm – South Campus

Sunday, September 29

12:32 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Residence Hall
12:45 P.M. Complaint – Milbank Residence Hall
4:07 P.M. Fire Alarm– North Residence Hall
6:28 P.M. Assist – Bristol Campus Center
8:13 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Bundy East Residence Hall
10:48 P.M. Fire Alarm – ABC House
11:07 P.M. Complaint – Bundy East Residence Hall

Monday, September 30

12:27 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
12:52 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
12:57 A.M. Complaint – Eells Residence
1:31 A.M. Area Check – North Campus
2:36 P.M. Complaint – North Campus
3:14 A.M. Area Check – Morris Residence
4:24 A.M. Tow Vehicle– Parking Lots: Ferguson Faculty
4:24 A.M. Tow Vehicle– Parking Lots: Ferguson Faculty
4:24 A.M. Tow Vehicle– Parking Lots: Ferguson Faculty
4:24 A.M. Tow Vehicle– Parking Lots: Ferguson Faculty
4:24 A.M. Tow Vehicle– Parking Lots: Root Faculty
10:41 A.M. Tow Vehicle– Parking Lots: C & D
1:13 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Kirkland Residence Hall

Tuesday, September 31

8:08 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Kirkland Residence Hall
8:45 A.M. Complaint – Root Residence Hall
11:32 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Johnson Health Center
11:32 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Bundy West Residence Hall

Administration suffocates campus social life with new insurance policy

This semester, the Hamilton administration has implemented a new rule requiring fraternities and sororities to pay an insurance fee of between $150 and $200 for on-campus events occuring in social spaces. However, other student organizations, such as club sports teams, that host events in on-campus social spaces, are exclusive, and require members to pay dues do not have to pay this insurance fee. This inequity aside, this new rule, which coincides with other changes that impose large financial burdens on members of Greek life, will only serve to dampen social life on the Hill.

The Hamilton administration has placed an emphasis on reigning in social life off the Hill and has increasingly cracked down on social events taking place in the College's residence halls. When Dean Martinez arrived at Hamilton in the fall of 2017, she made it clear that drinking in the Village of Clinton posed a legal, reputional, and social problem for the College. In addition, campus safety and resident advisors have been increasingly and noticeably more aggressive with policing these on-campus events.

The new and onerous insurance requirement, which is in itself a convoluted process, is counterintuitive to the stated aims of the College relative to social life. If Hamilton is truly interested in bringing social life back onto the Hill and out of residence halls, it should make it easier for Hamilton's Greek organizations to host all-campus parties in social spaces. While insurance requirements very well might have changed, the Hamilton administration should be willing to foot the bill, especially if it plans to continue its policy of charging no insurance fee to other exclusive student organizations that host all-campus parties.

Even presuming the maximum fee of $200 and social events both nights of every weekend, this would only cost the College $6,000. Seems like a pretty easy line item to bring Hamilton's social life in-line with the Administration's philosophy.

Sincerely,
Spectator Editorial Board

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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A plea to Gen Z: allow the anti-vaping campaign to take its course

by Melanie Snyder '20
Senior Editor

In recent months, heightened controversy has surrounded the rise of the vaping industry and the growing pervasiveness of vaping, mainly among students and minors. As early as last month, there was a significant turn out of protestors outside of JUUL offices in Manhattan, which was largely made up of teen advocates and parents, according to *CBS New York*.

Although the efforts of these advocates has not been covered extensively in the media on a national scale (especially in lieu of whistleblowers and impeachment inquiries) and vaping remains on the rise, young people should not write-off the efforts of anti-vaping advocates as they attempt to prevent the rise of another health-averse industry similar to that of tobacco.

How different can they be, really?

Recognizable vaping brands include SMOK and JUUL consistently market their products as "alternatives" to cigarettes, or rather, a healthier option, presumably. (On a side note, JUUL is currently being investigated by the Federal Drug Administration for illegally advertising their products as "healthy alternatives" to JUUL, according to *The New York Times.*) But, regardless of whether consumers believe or feel that JUUL is objectively "healthier" than cigarettes (most likely having nothing to base opinions on other than personal intuition,) there is, as of this moment in time, still no consensus among health professionals that indicates whether JUULing is healthier than cigarette smoking because there remains to be insufficient data to support any scientific claims regarding the health effects of vaping. In short, no one can yet say for sure whether the health impacts of JUULing will be as crippling as cigarette consumption, which means JUULs may still plausibly be as detrimental to our health as cigarettes.

History in repeat

This is a story that we've heard before, however. The problem is that young people, the most avid vapers, may not be as familiar with the rise of the unstoppable tobacco industry, the efforts to quell it through government intervention, and the devastating effects that the industry had once it became too powerful to overcome.

In short, according to the American Cancer Society, there was little awareness in the United States surrounding negative health impacts of cigarettes until the 1950s, and at that point, tobacco was a $5 billion industry and the CDC estimates that over 70 percent of American adults were regular smokers.

It then took the second half of the 20th century for the government and lobbyists to gradually take down the behemoth industry by banning commercials, creating no-smoke zones, and the like. It was not until the late 1990s and early 2000s (around the time that most college students were born) that cigarette consumption began to consistently decline in America

So what does this mean for current vapers? It means that the alleviation of one vice is being subtly replaced by another, and since the aforementioned story is not as widely understood or known by young people, they are the most vulnerable to repeat the addictive behaviours of their parents and grandparents.

Young people are vulnerable to addictive chemicals like nicotine, of course, but they are also less aware of, or at least have not seen first hand, the power and capacity of money and industry in influencing Washington and preventing politicians from protecting Americans and doing the "right thing" (which might have been outlawing vaping from the onset.)

Many Americans generally trust that their government will do the right thing in keeping them out of harm's way, but anyone familiar with the story of the tobacco industry, and even the recent opioid epidemic, would tell you otherwise. So, the alternative to resisting the rise of the vaping industry is passively accepting its growth as well as its up-and-coming place in our culture, resulting in high rates of youth addiction and an unstoppable industry that feeds off of the proliferation of lung cancer. Sound familiar yet?

Reversing progress

Incredible strides have been made over the last thirty years to eliminate cigarette use in the United States: cigarette smoking is no longer part of youth and pop culture, smoking inside is generally prohibited in most public spaces, cigarette prices are taxed in many cities as a disincentive to purchase them, and perhaps most importantly, there is consistently low levels of youth participation in smoking, according to the CDC.

Young people may have avoided one poison and are being drawn to another that is potentially just as debilitating, and the history of smoking in America suggests that once health impacts are finally exposed, it will be too late. Allowing one brand of smoking to replace another comes too close to reversing decades of progress and even rendering it all pointless.

So, while it may be inconvenient or a bit of a let down that Hamilton College and many other public spaces have already begun to ban vaping and JUULing in and around them, and while one might consider it unnecessary to ban a substance seemingly totally unlike a cigarette, the campaign to quell vaping should not be undermined or resisted.

On the contrary, we, as in generation Z, should recognize the traumatic history of the smoking epidemic in America and consider ourselves lucky that we live in a time and place in which our health is valued and prioritized above corporate interests (for the most part) because this was less so the case for our own parents and grandparents, at least when it comes to smoking.

Enough is enough: let's dissolve Greek life

by Peter Case '21
Opinion Editor

Greek life is on its way out. Thanks to a war against fraternities and sororities waged by the Office of the Dean of Students — sometimes over legitimate concerns, sometimes not — the College has made it clear that Greek organizations are unwelcome on this campus in their current form. Sororities are being forced to nationalize, and fraternities are increasingly hindered in their efforts to cut costs for their members.

Greek organizations must now pay, at minimum, $150 to host all-campus parties despite being required to host at least one per semester. Hamilton has also done away with the traditional practice used by some fraternities and sororities to pay their national dues through an added tuition cost, increasing financial burden on students in those organizations. Greek life in its current form is on its last legs.

However, I do not think that the College wants to completely get rid of Greek life. A large percentage of Hamilton's donations come from former Greek organization members and I don't believe we will see a day that the administration turns down a source of donations. I think the image that Office of the Dean of Students has in its mind for Greek life at Hamilton is a gallery that contains large cardboard cutouts of each organizations' crests with collection boxes below.

As an active member of a Greek organization, I say we scrap it. Go underground. Dissolve your chapters.

Sure, the history of underground Greek organizations here at Hamilton is not exactly "clean." Historically, if a group has gone underground it has been because they have done some truly horrible stuff to warrant it. There's a really terrible precedent set, and it's just not good optics. So I propose an alternative.

In order to make sure that your organization can still operate on campus, even as you slink into the shadows where the administration can never find you, everyone in your organization should find an activity that allows you to operate as a school-sanctioned social group. One possibility: put your chapter's dues into getting the best training possible and take over a varsity sports team. Shove out all the existent, non-member players through intimidation and become your own autonomous group with no national dues and the ability to haze with no oversight or threat of nationalization. The only catch with this is that our collective beer bellies and smoking habits might be a significant hurdle to becoming D3 athletes with little to no experience in competitive athletics, but these are semantic hurdles that can be overcome.

If you want to escape the prying eyes of the administration, and your Greek organization feels under attack, have your pledging consist of two-a-day sessions at the gym, choose a varsity team that's easily accessible (like football or crew), and make it your own. It's foolproof. Only a matter of time before the Dean of Students office charges $40 per baseball.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

The new policies for Greek organizations send a not-so-subtle message that the administration wants them gone, writes Case.

Slowly, without much fanfare, Greek life is being pushed off campus. It started with residential houses being bought out in the 1990s, continued with off-campus housing being disallowed just six years ago, and today, rumors are circulating that the College attempted to buy out Greek-maintained houses downtown. If the Dean of Students wants to crush Greek life on campus, fine. Go for it. Eliminate Greek life. Better yet, stomp out all social groups. Institute a curfew. Make this place dry. Give RAs tasers. But if you are going to shove out fraternities and sororities, at least don't be so passive aggressive about it. Own it.

Is Hamilton truly need-blind?

by Stella Karron '23
Opinion Contributor

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the College's need-blind policy for first-year domestic applicants. This policy ensures that when potential students' applications are reviewed by admissions, their family income does not play a decisive role; in other words, the admissions committee cannot deny a student admission to the College based on their family income. In theory, this policy is important because it allows students' personal achievements to speak for themselves and evaluates all students by common standards, especially for those who are affected by factors outside of their control.

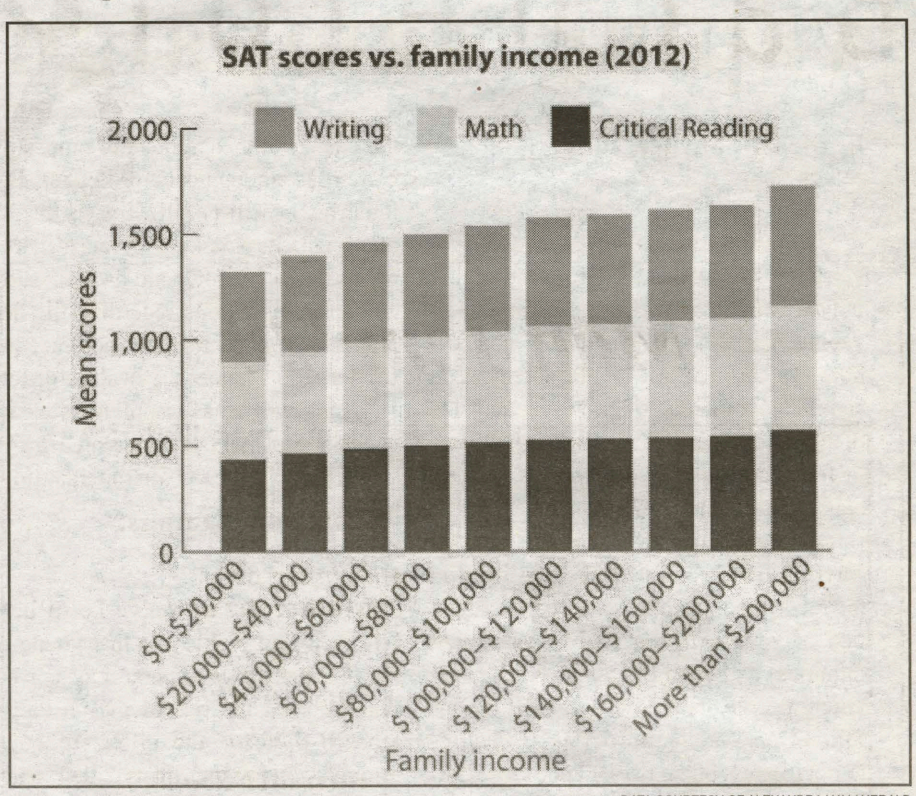
As much as I would like to believe that the College's need-blind policy fulfills these goals, I know this is not completely true. The College still requires standardized testing scores, which functions as a de facto measure of family income. These tests, commonly known as the ACT and SAT, are rigged for students of higher income to perform better. The tests were known to be skewed towards success for students from high-income families even before the "Operation Varsity Blues" scandal, which exposed celebrities for having bribed test facilitators to doctor high scores on the SAT so their child would be admitted to college. Further, high-income families have access to private tutoring services and possess the means to pay for students to take standardized tests numerous times. Studies have repeatedly shown that higher income students have better chances at raising their scores with successive tries.

Not only are the tests unfair to lower income students, but they also disadvantage students with learning disabilities. Though students with a documented learning disability can be given extra test-taking time, this doesn't always help. Some students — regardless of intelligence — just not good test takers, which limits the schools they can apply to because standardized tests do not demonstrate whether they would actually succeed at that institution.

Below-average standardized test scores do not equate to below-average intelligence. It just means that these students have a different way of thinking compared to other students. In fact, some studies have shown that high standardized test scores do not correlate to success in college; instead, they find high school grades are the best predictor of success at higher institutions.

Today, more and more colleges are getting rid of standardized test requirements on applications. Last year, the University of Chicago became test-optional and justified their decision as a means of "enhanc[ing] the accessibility of [the] undergraduate College for first-generation and low-income students."

Today, over 1,000 colleges in the United States are test optional. This policy improves access to these schools for more students who would not normally apply simply because they feel constrained by their test scores. If the College wants to be truly need-blind and fulfill its goals of welcoming and including lower-income and first-generation college students to its ranks, it should become test optional or completely exclude standardized tests from its application.



DATA COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA HAY / HERALD

Studies show that high-income students tend to score better on standardized tests than students from low-income backgrounds.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
The Daily Bull	***The Enquiry***	***The Spectator***
Offering Hamilton's only reliable, well-researched, fresh-farmed daily news, *The Daily Bull* brings light to the lives of Hamilton students in a way that nothing, even the love and affection of their friends and family, can give. *The Daily Bull* is more than a publication, it is a community. That is why TDB is announcing its annual pledge drive to help give blind children pedicures. To give, please venmo @ Peter-Case-4.	Oof.	Oh wow you're actually reading this? Why? I mean, thank you, but why? Aren't you busy? You realize this is distributed right next to *the New York Times*, right? Did you get confused? Are you okay? I often wonder how much of our readership consists of people who pick this paper up thinking it's *the Times*. It has to be a significant portion. Them and the elderly.

by Peter Case '21

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

**Strongly opinionated?
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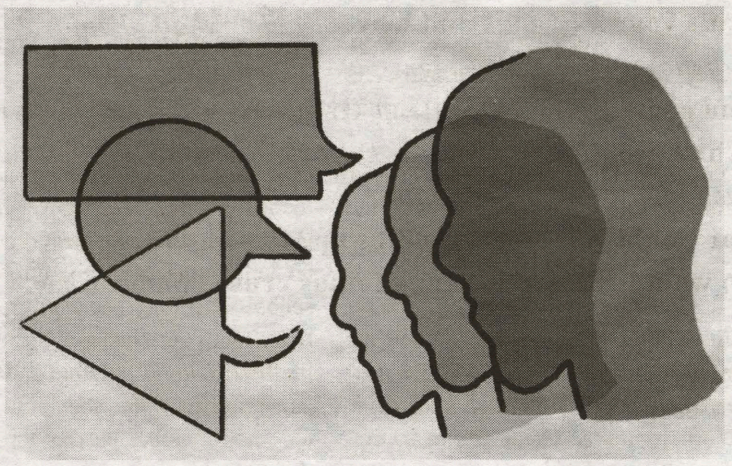

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The Spectator

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Matt Tom '20

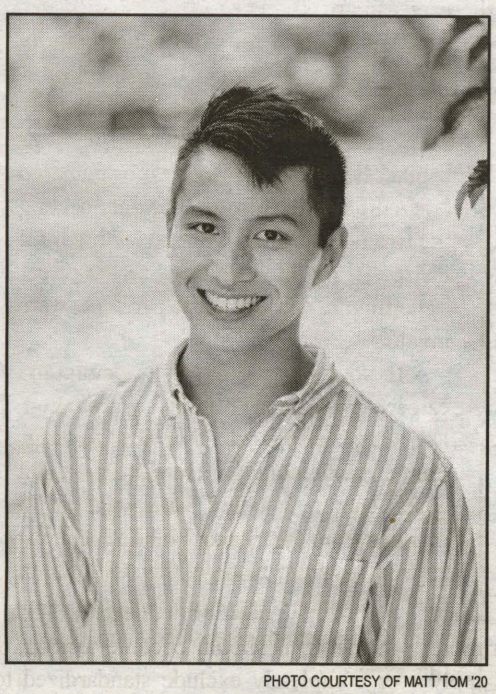

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT TOM '20

Hometown: *Wellesley, M.A.*
Home on Campus: *Milbank 23.*
Major: *Art and Literature.*
Turn on? *Ripe cantaloupe.*
Turn off? *Reading.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Wally J. I'm going downhill but haven't reached the bottom yet.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Troye Sivan and Hannah Montana. I'm a skinny Gemini.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"The best a man can get." -Gillette*
What TV genre best describes you? *Watch in One Night.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Do you like* Cats the Musical*?"*
What's your type? *Someone who goes to the Wellin "for fun."*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Black pants, hair gel, and an Epipen.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Darkside suite bathroom.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *KTSA bathroom.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Phi Beta Kappa.*
What's your patronus and why? *A killer whale. I enjoy social interactions but can get aggressive when underfed.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Decorating with plug-in string lights.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Simone Biles.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Sunny Chen. Please be my friend.*
What would your perfect date be? *You tell me I'm pretty under the fluorescent lights of the McDonald's drive-through.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? Cats the Musical *on DVD.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *A Little Caesars pizza because I'm "Hot & Ready."*
Lights on or lights off? *Lights on, shades up.*
Favorite campus study spot? *I'm an art major. I don't study.*
What's the last lie you told? *"Let's be friends!"*
What was your first thought this morning? *Amy Adams deserves an Oscar.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Shrek.*

Hannah Budner '23

PHOTO COURTESY OF HANNAH BUDNER '23

Hometown: *Plainfield, N.H.*
Home on Campus: *Keehn.*
Major: *Undeclared.*
Turn on? *$5 foot pics.*
Turn off? *Any foot pic more than $5.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Keehn. The ceiling looks like a dungeon, and no one ever thinks Keehn is rogue, but it contains some unexplainable scoundrels.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Keith Urban and A$AP Rocky. I was adopted.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"We are farmers, bum bum bum bum bum bum bum."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Absurd satire. Think "Wet Hot American Summer."*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"If you were a fish, I'd fry you."*
What's your type? *Insecure, fearful, drug addict.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Buffalo chicken pizza, the word "anyways," and my neon orange painted nails.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *The Glen House.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *To the wooded glen to punch dance my rage out.*
What's your patronus and why? *A sewage rat. I eat people's scraps from the table, and I only have a little shame from doing so. Also, I could be rabid.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Getting 100 metric tons of ecstasy pills mailed to my on campus mailbox.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Any reptile. Preferably an alligator.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Birds. They aren't real.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *There's an old man who perches in the Root Glen every day around 4:00 P.M. Him. He is my campus crush.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Fran MacDonnell.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Capital theft.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off. With a live flame instead of electricity.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Probably a carcinogen. Idk, like, bacon with nitrates.*

Hamilton Program in Washington celebrates a successful 50 years

by Claire Goldstein '22
Features Editor

In the fall of 1969, Hamilton College introduced the Hamilton Program in Washington D.C. In doing so, the College created an extraordinary opportunity for students passionate about politics to study away from campus in the capital of the United States. Since then, for the past 50 years, the Program has flourished and adapted to the changing American political system.

The competitive program is part of the College's Department of Government and is only open to 16 students each semester. The application is open to students of any concentration and any year except first-years. Program participants take one seminar course that has to do with a specific theme of the term, and the seminar also includes guest speakers and trips to important institutions in and around Washington.

In addition to taking the two courses taught by a Hamilton Government professor and conducting an independent study, students are exposed to real government work by participating in an internship for 300-level Government credit. These internships span a wide variety of interests including all three branches of government, think tanks, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), non-profits, and lobbying and consulting firms. Students spend four days a week as full-time staff members in a Congressional office and then in either an executive or NGO placement. These internships seek to show how fundamental experiential learning is to a liberal arts education.

The experiences of the Program's alumni exemplify these goals. Nadav Konforty '20, who participated in the Spring 2019 term, worked as a senate intern for Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren. Konforty commented on what his internship experience meant to him, saying, "It was integral in helping me develop myself as a young professional and also to help me narrow what I was interested in regarding a career in government."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Program participants meet with Rep. Anthony Brindisi of New York's 22nd Congressional District.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Students visit Washington's historic Mount Vernon home.

As an intern for the Public Integrity Section in the Department of Justice Criminal Division, Maggie Luddy '20 was fully immersed in the Judicial branch. Luddy attributes her internship with exposing her to "incredible skills in my field and connecting me to a network that will stay with me for the rest of my life," adding that the career opportunities and learning experiences were invaluable.

In addition to offering academic and career exposure, the Program's Washington, D.C. location one of its critical features. Participants stay in Hamilton-owned apartments in Woodley Park, which is 30 minutes from the capitol building and just 15 minutes from Georgetown. City life in D.C. is a major change from Clinton, New York, and participants say they appreciated this experience.

"Living in D.C. was such a privilege and it helped me learn how to live in a city," said Konforty. Participants are expected to be able to independently manage the logistics of city life like shopping and transportation.

Looking ahead to the start of the next 50 years of the Program, interested students can apply for the D.C. Program for Fall 2020 or Spring 2021 terms. Professor Philip Klinkner is the current D.C. faculty member and is available to answer any questions via email.

From Where I Sit: This Land Was Made For You And Me

Hamilton's International Perspectives Column

by Preston Comer '22
Contributing Writer

On our campus we see how America is indeed the "land of opportunity." Students come from all over the world in search of new possibilities and opportunities; they are courageous enough to travel a world away from their culture and comfort zone.

However, they are not alone in facing challenges on their journey toward opportunity. As we admire the accomplishments of the international students on campus, it is hardly realized that opportunities within the United States are withheld from some of its own citizens. Those of us from low-income communities have had to fight and claw our way up the socioeconomic ladder.

All but the very first years of my life, I resided in a small town called Bristow situated in the forgotten state of Oklahoma. Nobody really did anything different here. A child would play on a little league sports team then skid by doing as little as possible until he or she would be faced with a near impossible decision to either start a family, enlist in the military, or find a blue-collar job in the near unbearable heat until their body gave out or they committed a serious crime.

I was both determined enough and lucky enough to break the cycle with some help from my encouraging parents, a newly arrived computer science instructor, and a counselor at a private school from a neighboring state. I began attempting to find a solution by recognizing the problem. I witnessed my neighbor, who was at the top of her class, become convinced that going to college and moving away was "abandoning" those that had raised her.

I knew that, regardless of my grades, I would not be able to afford the expense of college, and therefore, from the age of ten I began to research grants, scholarships, and salaries of different jobs along with the requirements that I had to meet in order to make my dream a reality. Armed with that knowledge, I started to work to fulfill the basic requirements for college, such as determining which classes to take and the minimum ACT score required for admittance into college.

Outside of class, I researched topics related to what the class was learning, spending hours each day taking notes and learning as much as I could, only to be left disappointed whenever the teacher skipped the information that I had worked so hard to learn. This cycle repeated itself over and over again, leaving me frustrated. Was I wasting my time and effort? Why did my teachers not go over any of the information that I had worked so hard to absorb?

After a year of doubting myself, I realized my teachers were just like everybody else born in my town. The Common Core, english, science, math, and history teachers only desired to earn a bachelor's degree so that they could be hired as a coach or assistant coach for their favorite sport. My teachers did not care what I learned. You could say "they kicked the can down the road." Sadly, amazing teachers rarely accept jobs barely above minimum wage in a rural isolated town. However, this simply reaffirmed my belief that I would be the one to leave.

Even though I had to struggle to accomplish my dream of being admitted into a top school, I made it and I know that you can too. It will not be easy, it may not be what you envisioned, but you, with the financial and academic help of Hamilton College, can accomplish your dreams if you do not abandon your goal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PRESTON COMER '22

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to the voices of international students, immigrant generation students, and students from families where English is not spoken at home.

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Film Preview: Brad Pitt, *Ad Astra*, and star power

by Jane Nealey '21
A&E Contributor

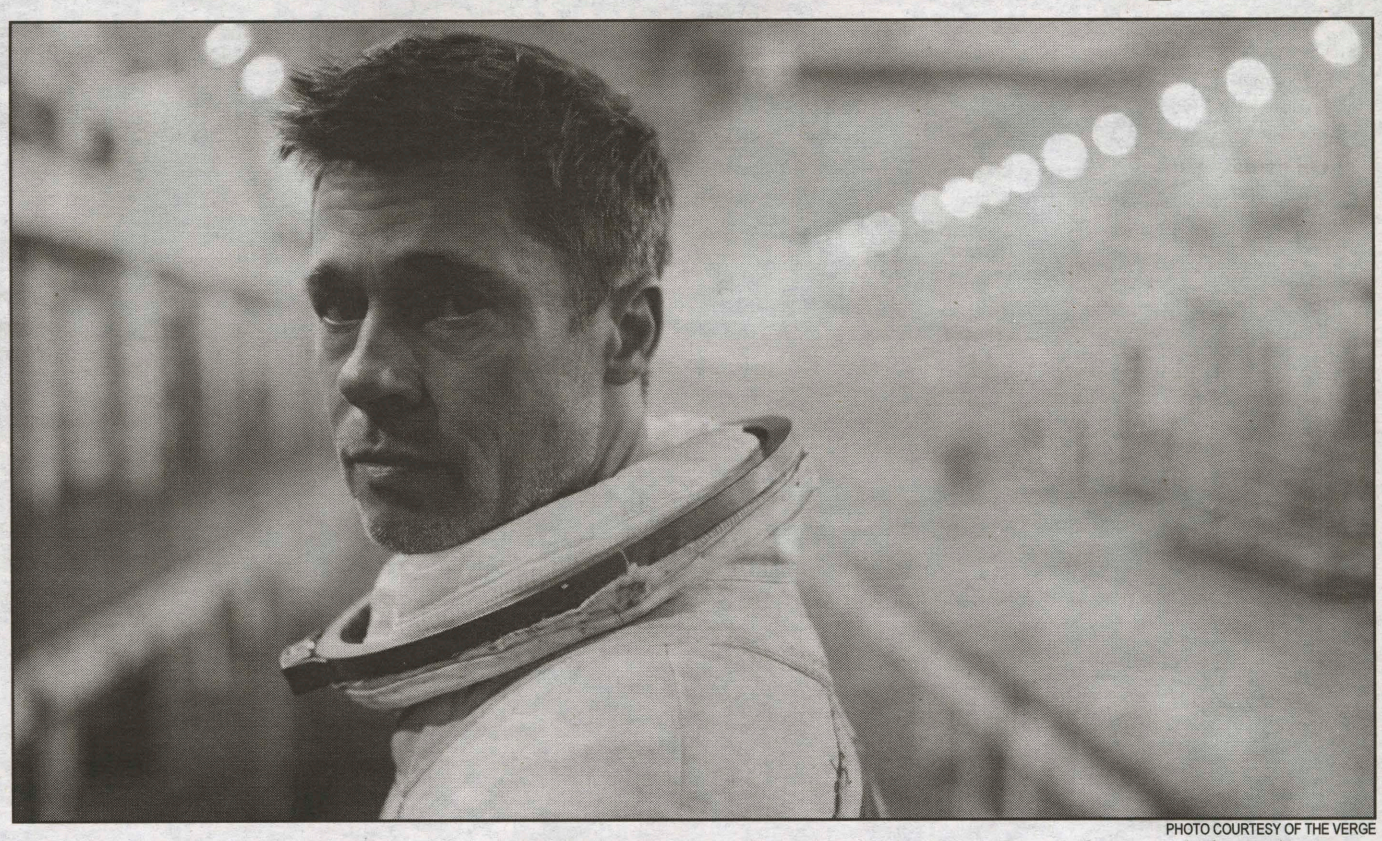

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE VERGE

Brad Pitt stars as astronaut Roy McBride in *Ad Astra*. The film follows McBride on his journey to contact his missing father.

Ad Astra is the kind of movie that sits with you, that weighs on you. It's one of those experiences in a theater that is tough to shake for a while after you've seen it.

The film first comes across as a simple vehicle for "Brad Pitt in space," but at the same time, the simplicity of that concept becomes the strength of it. James Gray's sparse direction and Hoyte Van Hoytema's expansive-yet-intimate cinematography craft an environment that truly invades your psyche. Above all else, though, the film really is a platform for a Brad Pitt performance that transcends his virtually unparalleled stardom and elevates the film to something that demands — and deserves — your attention.

The skeleton of the film is simple: successful astronaut Roy McBride (Pitt) discovers that his famous astronaut-father may not have died years ago as he thought but instead might be camped out somewhere near Neptune, wreaking havoc and causing power surges across Earth. The film follows McBride on his journey to contact his father, which becomes an exploration not only of the far reaches of the solar system but of the toxic masculinity that McBride's father instilled in him and the emotions he has repressed his whole life because of it.

Reminiscent of such epics as *Apocalypse Now*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and *Blade Runner: 2049*, the cinematography and set designs are vast and isolating, setting the stage for a character piece about a man who closes himself off to the warmth of human connection and seeks out the emptiness of space because it's easier than confronting the vulnerability of his own feelings.

The subtle, yet masterful, world-building that cloaks the edges of the film features a near future where humanity has turned its efforts towards the pursuit of extraterrestrial life. This singularly outward search complements McBride's pursuit of space exploration in order to ignore his personal demons; in this way, he represents a world unwilling to face problems at home that instead turns outward to distract itself.

The film is full of great performances. Ruth Negga and Tommy Lee Jones are particular standouts, in addition to a single-scene-stealing turn from Natasha Lyonne. Negga's character becomes a foil to the repressed and stoic McBride, serving as an example of the good that can come out of caring for and connecting to those around you. Tommy Lee Jones as McBride's father, on the other hand, is an unrelenting presence and brings to light McBride's personal demons. His father lurks in his psyche until the film comes to its explosive end, closing out on yet another note of the emptiness that the film — and its main character — can't seem to escape.

This space epic delivers a spectacle of filmmaking that just feels significant, and it's all anchored by the type of seasoned performance that only a figure like Brad Pitt can deliver. It's a performance that can only come from years spent in front of a camera and decades spent commanding an audience.

The kind of starpower that Brad Pitt has is something that's been parodied and exaggerated for almost as long as he's been a leading man, and in *Ad Astra*, Gray gets a performance out of Pitt that harnesses all of the attention and scrutiny that comes from being in the public eye. The result is a portrayal of a man who has never allowed his heart rate to climb above 80 bpm and a demonstration of the damage that such suppression of emotion can cause.

Of the two Brad Pitt films from this year that explore ultra-masculinity, this is the far more nuanced, layered one. Pitt's character in Quentin Tarantino's summer hit *Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood* celebrates the other side of the fame that stars like Pitt have — the easy confidence that comes with a long career of having your name put above the title on movie posters. Even as a stuntman-turned-butler-of-sorts, *Hollywood*'s Cliff Booth exudes Brad Pitt's movie-star charisma. While Tarantino simply uses Pitt's natural stardom, however, Gray dissects and attempts to uproot it.

Following *Hollywood*, *Ad Astra* further intensifies and complicates Pitt's "Best Actor" odds at the Academy Awards this year. Nominated by the Academy six times in total (three times each for acting and producing,) the only trophy Pitt's taken home has been for producing 2014 Best Picture-winner *12 Years a Slave*. This year presents his best chance yet to finally grab the acting Oscar that has so far eluded him, but with two Oscar-worthy performances this year in *Hollywood* and *Ad Astra*, his candidacy is complex.

Pitt himself has declared that he "is gonna abstain" from Oscar campaigning this year, referring to the tradition leading up to the Academy Awards of a "for your consideration" campaign. Such an effort involves advertisements, parties, and promotional events geared towards Academy members in an attempt to sway their votes. This is generally regarded as the most likely — and often only — path to an Oscar, so Pitt's abstention is an unusual move.

Such a declaration against the "typical" Oscar process, however, is not completely out of character for Pitt, who has been vocal about his beliefs that films shouldn't be judged solely on their box office or awards successes. A recent *New York Times* profile revealed that when Moonlight — a film his production company, Plan B, produced — won the top prize at the Oscars, Pitt was busy having dinner at James Gray's house. When Gray told him about the now-infamous *La La Land*-mixup at that year's awards, he reportedly responded with not much more than "Oh wow, that's cool."

Pitt seems averse to the Hollywood bureaucracy epitomized by the Oscars, but sometimes all a performance needs to stand out to the Academy is an interesting narrative, a recognizable and popular face, or pure talent — all of which Brad Pitt has in spades. The only question that remains is whether the Academy will go for his higher-profile supporting effort in Hollywood, or his more under-the-radar lead performance in *Ad Astra*.

Though both are deserving, the *Hollywood* nomination is likely to overshadow the possibility of one for *Ad Astra*. If that happens, it feels like a waste of such a career-defining performance from an actor who has, impossibly, managed to soar even higher in the Hollywood zeitgeist.

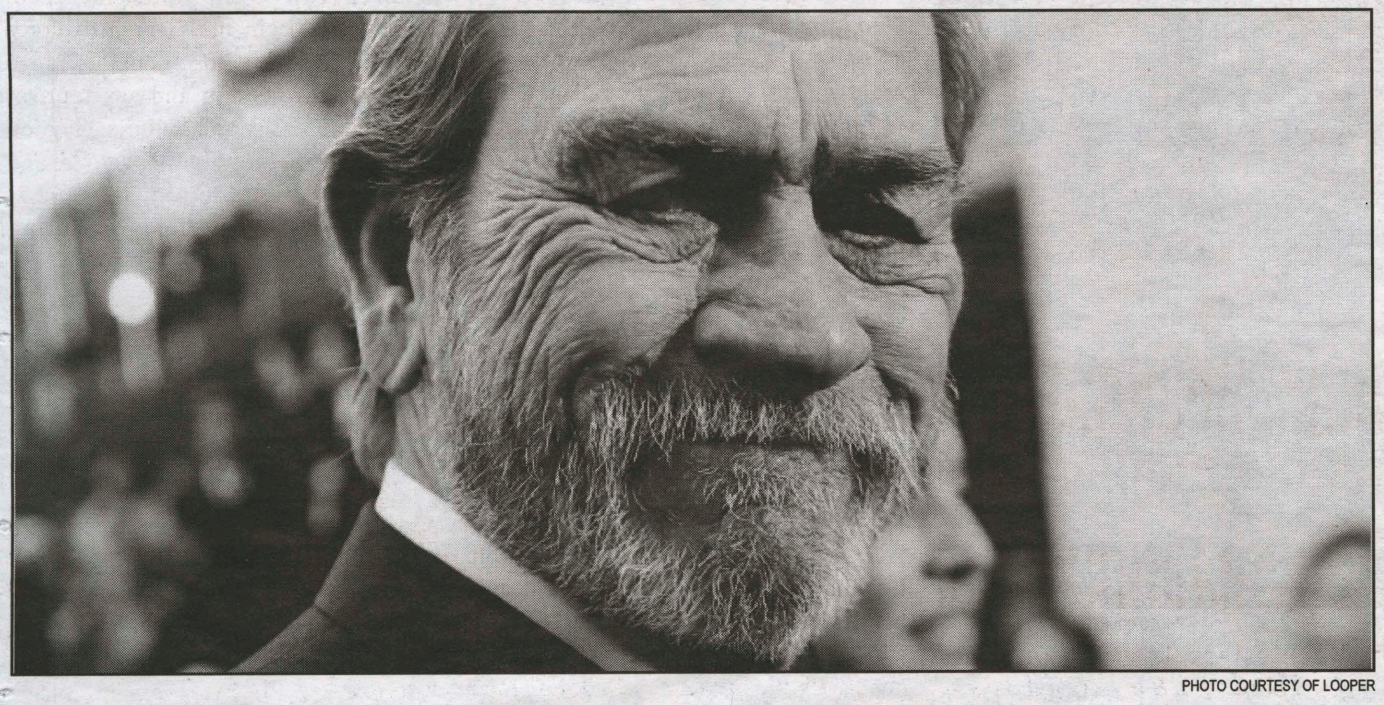

PHOTO COURTESY OF LOOPER

Tommy Lee Jones stars as missing astronaut and father Clifford McBride in *Ad Astra*.

F.I.L.M. Series announces fall line-up

by Karina Bayrakdarian '21
A&E Editor

On Friday, Sept. 13, Hamilton College announced the lineup of its fall F.I.L.M. (Forum on Image and Language in Motion) series, which brings figures in the film industry to campus to show and discuss their work with students and faculty. The program is made possible by the office of the Dean of the Faculty and by support from the Kirkland Endowment, the Art History Department, and the Days-Massolo Center. Events are curated by Professor of Art History Scott MacDonald. All F.I.L.M. series events are free and open to the public and take place in the Bradford Auditorium in Kirner-Johnson Building.

The Alloy Orchestra opened the F.I.L.M. series this past weekend on Friday, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Sept. 28. with a live accompaniment for Buster Keaton's *The General* (1926) and Fritz Lang's *Metropolis* (1927). Praised as "the best in the world at accompanying silent films" by film critic Roger Ebert, the Alloy Orchestra is a three-man musical ensemble that writes and performs live music for classic silent films.

The trio (Terry Donahue, Ken Winokur, and Roger C. Miller) combine instruments from peculiar and unlikely sources to create almost any sound imaginable. Winokur is the director and plays percussion and clarinet, Donahue plays junk percussion, the musical saw, and the accordion, and Miller is on the keyboard. The group has performed at prestigious film festivals and cultural centers in the U.S. and across the world, including The Louvre, Lincoln Center, and The Academy of Motion Pictures. This was their last performance at Hamilton before the musicians go their separate ways.

On Sunday, Oct. 13, Pawel Wojtasik and John Bruce will present *End of Life* (2019). The film follows Wojtasik and Bruce as they spend four years with five individuals at various stages in the process of dying. In preparation for this project, the filmmakers trained to be end-of-life doulas and documented hundreds of hours of interactions with their subjects. As doulas, they worked with the dying people, along with those surrounding each of them, to help design, guide, and support their wishes to have a "good death," whatever that might mean for them. Wojtasik's work has been exhibited at MASS MoCA, the Whitney Biennial, MoMA, and the Museum of the Moving Image. Bruce is currently the Assistant Professor of Strategic Design at Parsons School of Design, where he also serves as Director of the MFA Transdisciplinary Design program and co-founded the studio Design for Living and Dying.

On Sunday, Oct. 27, Jay Craven, Director of Cinema Sarah Lawrence, will present rough-cut sections of his new feature-length film, *Martin Eden*. During the 2019 spring semester, four members of the Class of 2021 — Karina Bayrakdarian, Jane Nealey, Vale Medina, and Ava Witonsky — along with students from other colleges and working professionals in the film industry, participated in the production of an adaptation based on the Jack London novel Martin Eden. The program, which is associated with Sarah Lawrence College, runs every other spring semester.

The 2019 semester kicked off with a week at Sundance Film Festival, where students had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enjoy a daily routine of screenings and special events. The next six weeks of the program were based in Nantucket, Massachusetts, where students immersed themselves in classes and film department workshops, as well as gaining exposure to the pre-production processes of casting and location-scouting. Production of the film began in late March and continued until the first week of May. Each day, students worked in a specific department (cinematography, editing, set design, or behind-the-scenes) and occasionally acted as extras in the film. The semester away program provides valuable experience to any student interested in pursuing a career in the film industry.

On Saturday, Nov. 2 and Sunday, Nov. 3, Paul Cronin will present *A Time to Stir* (2018), a 7 ½ hour film on the Columbia University revolt of 1968. For seven days in April 1968, Columbia students occupied five buildings on campus to protest both a planned gymnasium in a nearby Harlem park, the university's views on the Vietnam War, and the university's unresponsive attitude toward their concerns. Exhilarating to some and deeply troubling to others, the student protests completely took over the university and grabbed the world's attention, inspiring uprisings at other colleges. Fifty years after the events, *A Time to Stir* captures the reflections of those who participated in and witnessed the Columbia rebellion. Maurice Isserman, the Publius Virgilius Rogers Professor of American History, will also join Cronin in a discussion of the screening.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, Yu Yonggang will present *The Goddess* (1934), with live accompaniment by Min Xiao Fen on pipa and Rez Abassi on guitar. The two will be playing their own score. *The Goddess* is a Chinese silent film about a young woman who is a prostitute by night and a devoted mother by day, fighting to get her young son an education amid judicial and social injustice in China. The woman is played by Ruan Lingyu (also known as Lily Yuen), one of the most popular Chinese film stars of the 1930s; her exceptional acting and suicide at the age of 24 made her a famous figure in Chinese cinema. Today, *The Goddess* is one of the best known films of China's cinematic Golden Age and was named one of China's top 100 films by the Hong Kong Film Awards in 2005.

On Wednesday, Nov. 20, Sharon Lockhart will present an artist's talk and her newest film, *Rudzienko* (2016). The film focuses on the way teenage girls cope with the anxieties of adolescence — fear, loneliness, distrust, self-doubt, parental misunderstanding, the longing for friendship, and love — while reconnecting with the lost remnants of their childhood. The subjects are young women from Rudzienko's Center for Socio-Therapy, a boarding school for troubled girls in eastern Poland. Lockhart organizes retreats for the teens where movement and dance, reading, writing, and other activities serve as safe spaces for sharing personal stories, creating self-confidence and building trust among the girls. The film was shot over a period of two years and presents a new way of looking at the relationship between image and language.

The final F.I.L.M. event will be on Sunday, Dec. 8, when Dominic Gagnon will present his film *Going South* (2018). As one of the pioneers of found-footage cinema, Gagnon explores Youtube videos whose contents range from gun ownership and sex tourism to gender identity and bulimia. Gagnon seamlessly merges highly personal and emotional unburdenings with outlandish conspiracy theories and boring shopping lists, and by using Youtube videos, he provides a commentary on contemporary America, where facts have been replaced by stories and fake news. In *Going South*, the second part of a quadrilogy, Gagnon reconstructs the southern U.S. through Youtube vlogs of alarming natural disasters, excessive partying, and mind-numbing video game violence. The first installment, *of the North* (2015), will be screened in Scott MacDonald's avant-garde film class on Wednesday, Dec. 4 in the Bradford Auditorium.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARON LOCKHART

***Rudzienko* follows a group of teenage girls from eastern Poland as they navigate the anxieties of adolescence.**

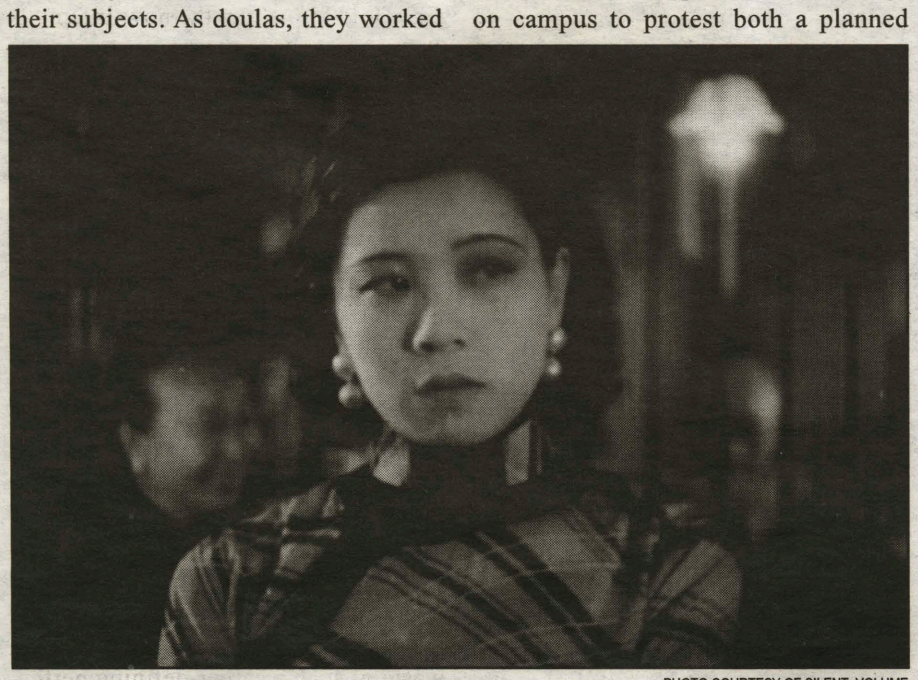

PHOTO COURTESY OF SILENT VOLUME

Ruan Linyu, also known as Lily Yuen, stars in the critically-acclaimed Chinese silent film *The Goddess*.

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Men's rugby demolishes SUNY Potsdam 40-0 in first home game

by Catherine McFarland '22
Sports Editor

This past Sunday, the Hamilton College men's rugby team earned a dominant victory over SUNY Potsdam in a 40-0 win. It was the perfect outcome on a sunny Fallcoming and Family weekend, especially because it was one of the Exiles' two home games all season.

The Exiles were coming off of a strong performance a week prior, which featured a 26-8 win against SUNY Plattsburgh. Against Plattsburgh, it was only a four-point game at the half until the offense exploded to score 14 more points and the rock-solid defense held their opponents to a scoreless second half.

The team carried this momentum into Sunday's game. While the official score was 40-0, a mercy rule was enacted after 22 minutes, and the unofficial score was an astounding 99-0.

The Potsdam Bears only had 13 players. 15 are needed to field a team, so some Hamilton players played alongside their opponents. The early mercy rule allowed for more members to see playing time.

"This match was great, not only for morale, but also because it allowed a lot of our rookies to get some good minutes and be in a real game," said Duncan Freeman '22.

The six tries (during official playing time) came from a multitude of players: two by Will Richardson '21, and one each by Ryan Wall '20, Nat Spicer '21, Hunter Olstein '21, and Owen Anastas '22. Richardson, who joined the team last season and is a member of the Hamilton track and field team, has been an asset to the team with his incredible speed.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LUKE BERNARD '20

The Exiles (above) work together to get the ball back in play. Zach Jones '22 (below) rushes toward the end line, supported by teammates Owen Anastas and Hunter Olstein.

Nine additional unofficial tries were spread out among the team as well. Henry Golden '20 and Luke Warshaw '20 each added one for the Exiles. The other seven tries came from underclassmen: three from Zach Jones '22 and one each from Ethan Loring '22, Zach Weller '23, Caden Lemov '23, and Ben Jakubzac '23. Jones is the goal kicker for the team but was able to see more time as a scrum half in this game.

"Zach played most of the game facilitating the offense and was rewarded," Freeman said.

The team voted Hunter Olstein '21 as their "Man of the Match" for "scor[ing] a try and [being] an overall standup player, always being in support when he needed to. He also proved his value as he played well at more than one position, starting off at winger and moving to flanker."

The team is led by captains Emmett Orgass '21 and Golden, whose expansive knowledge of the game and leadership skills have been pivotal to their success this season. In their last two games, the Exiles will lean on their first-years Weller, Jakubzac, and Lemov, who have already proved to be threats in the first three games.

Last year, Hamilton mercy-ruled Plattsburgh in 35 minutes. This year it took them only 22. Freeman noted that this spoke to the fact that "the team was incredibly prepared and has a deep roster."

Watch men's rugby as they look to continue their success at their last home game of the season on Oct. 19, at 1 PM on Minor Field against Paul Smith's College.

Last Week's Scores: Week of Sept. 23

Field Hockey (3-5) on Sept. 28 vs. Colby

	1	2	OT	F
Colby	1	1	1	3
Hamilton	2	0	0	2

Volleyball (7-4) on Sept. 27 vs. Williams College

	1	2	3	F
Williams	26	25	25	3
Hamilton	24	20	19	0

Women's Tennis on Sept. 27 at Utica College

	F
Utica	0
Hamilton	9

Women's Soccer (5-2-1) on Sept. 28 vs. Colby

	1	2	F
Colby	0	1	1
Hamilton	2	3	5

Field Hockey (3-5) on Tuesday, Oct. 10 at Williams

	1	2	OT	F
Williams	1	0	1	2
Hamilton	0	1	0	1

Men's Soccer (3-5) on Oct. 2 vs. Utica

	1	2	F
Utica	0	0	0
Hamilton	2	2	4

Men's Soccer (3-5) on Sept. 28 vs. Colby

	1	2	OT	F
Colby	0	0	0	0
Hamilton	0	0	1	1

Women's Soccer (5-2-1) on Oct. 1 vs. Morrisville State

	1	2	F
Morrisville	0	0	0
Hamilton	6	1	7

Field Hockey (3-5) on Sept. 25 at William Smith

	1	2	F
William Smith	0	0	0
Hamilton	2	1	3

Football (2-1) on Sept. 28 vs. Colby

	1	2	3	4	F
Colby	7	3	7	7	24
Hamilton	14	28	3	0	45

Women's Golf on Sept. 28 at Middlebury's George Phinney Jr. Golf Classic: 6th of 11

Men's Golf on Sept. 28 at NESCAC Championship Qualifier in Wayland, Mass.: 4th of 10

Women's Cross Country on Sept. 28 at Williams' Purple Valley Classic: 10th of 14

Men's Cross Country on Sept. 28 at Williams' Purple Valley Classic: 10th of 19

Athlete of the Week: Hyla Mosher '23

Hyla Mosher '23 has made an immediate offensive impact in her short time on Hamilton's women's soccer team (5-2-1, 2-2-1 NESCAC). She currently leads the team in total points (14), including six goals and two assists in only eight games. Mosher will be a player to watch as the team heads into their last five league matches throughout October.

Nickname: Mosh.

Hometown: Hudson, Quebec.

Position: Forward.

Favorite Professional Athlete: Christine Sinclair.

How did you get introduced to soccer: My older sister played, which made me want to try it.

Favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport: I really like to eat at all of the food options on campus.

What attracted you to Hamilton's soccer program: The whole NESCAC league is very competitive in soccer, which makes every game exciting and fun to play.

Toughest obstacle to overcome during athletic career: My toughest obstacle was probably my concussion. I had to make tough decisions about when to take time away from sports.

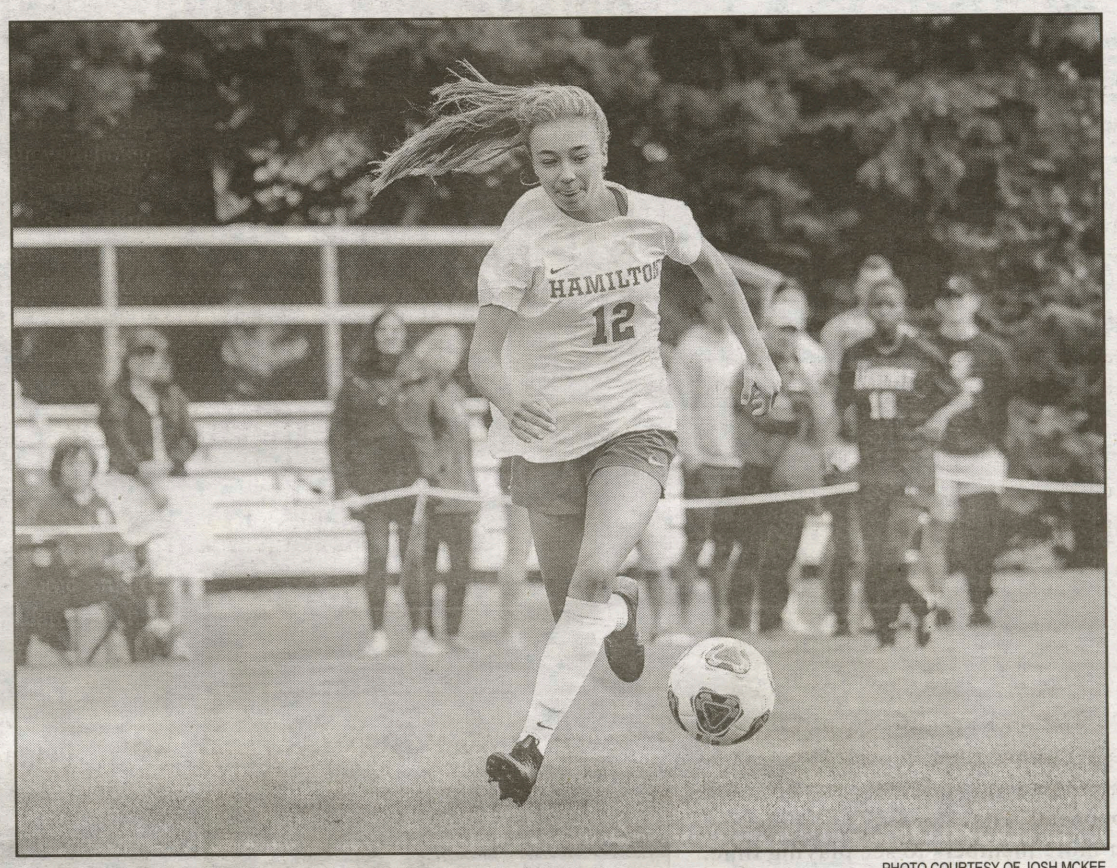


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Favorite sports moment at Hamilton: Playing Middlebury College in a tough 1-1 tie.

What are you most looking forward to this season: Our next game.

If you weren't on the soccer team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why: I would probably choose hockey because I've always wanted to learn how to ice skate.

42-point first half propels football to emphatic victory over Colby College

by Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The football team (2-1 NESCAC) is off to a strong start for the 2019 season. Their latest impressive performance came in the form of a 45-24 win on Saturday, Sept. 28 against the Colby College Mules during Fallcoming and Family Weekend.

The Continentals beat Colby with standout performances from many players, including quarterback Kenny Gray '20, who threw two touchdown passes and ran for a third. In total, Gray passed for 179 yards and ran for 71.

David Kagan '20, who was named NESCAC Offensive Player of the Week in the team's season opener two weeks prior, scored two of the Continentals' touchdowns and had 63 rushing yards. Kagan is currently No. 1 in the NESCAC in rushing yards per game (117.3) and second in scoring (36 total points).

Hamilton's special teams were also efficient against the Mules. Sam Robinson '20 averaged 43 yards on three punt returns, and Billy Wagner '20 averaged 45.5 yards on four punts. Robinson and Wagner are both currently ranked first in the league in average yards on returns (32.9) and punts (41.9), respectively. Additionally, Sam Thoreen '22 was 6/6 on extra points and similarly perfect on his lone field goal attempt.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY L. FORD

Will Budington '21 scored Hamilton's fourth touchdown against Colby, making an acrobatic catch on a 17-yard strike from Kenny Gray '20.

On the defensive end, Justin Leigh '20 and Carmine Bruno '20 each had four solo tackles. Leigh led the team with eight total tackles. Hamilton's three interceptions came from Mike Cairns '22, Ian Esliker '21, and Jeremy Barr '21. Mufudzi Chogugudza '21 broke up two passes and had three solo tackles.

Robinson scored Hamilton's first touchdown during their second possession off a 62-yard pass from Gray. Colby then scored on their next possession, making the score 7-7. Hamilton's next two touchdowns came from Gray and Kagan, who each posted 11 yard rushing touchdowns.

With less than four minutes left in the first half, Will Budington caught a 17-yard touchdown pass from Gray in the endzone. Soon after, James Ball '21 blocked a punt from Colby, leading to a 12-yard rush and touchdown by defensive lineman Alex Ganter '20. Ball was named to the D3football.com Team of the Week following the game.

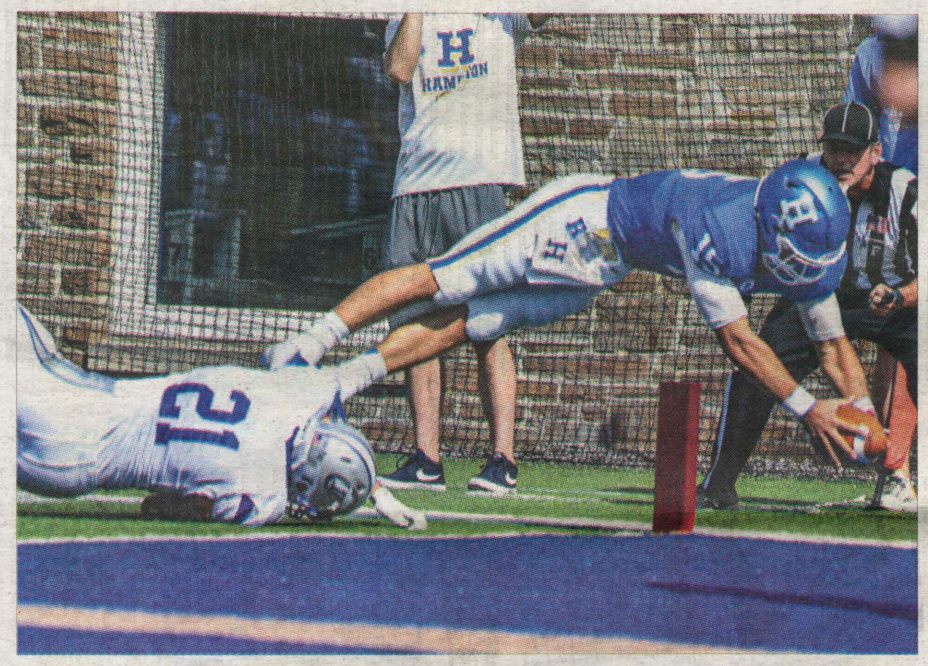
Kagan rushed for his second touchdown to finish the first half with the Continentals ahead 42-10. The only points scored by Hamilton in the second half came on a field goal by Thoreen. Two Colby touchdowns were not enough for the Mules to catch up after the Continentals' thrilling second-quarter run.

The football team looks to build on this win as their competitive league play continues. Their next home game is on Saturday, Oct. 19 against Amherst College on Steuben Field at 1:00 PM.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
October 3, 2019

Family & Fallcoming Weekend in Photos

Field Hockey (1-3 NESCAC) suffered a tough 3-2 loss in sudden-victory overtime to #19 Colby. Maggie Reville '22 had 14 saves to send the game into overtime. After a long back-and-forth stretch, the Mules won with a penalty corner on a shot by Emily Hogan, who snuck a shot just past Reville.



Football posted an important 45-24 win against Colby thanks to performances by quarterback Kenny Gray '20, running back David Kagan '20, and the special teams unit. Hamilton scored six touchdowns in total, including four in the second quarter alone for 28 points. Gray either passed or rushed for three of them. Colby scored two touchdowns in the second half but were unable to catch up to the Continentals, who committed 0 turnovers to Colby's 4.

Men's soccer pulled out an exciting win against Colby. The score remained 0-0 until the game reached a breaking point with only 49 seconds left in double overtime, when Aidan Wood '20 made a pass in front of Colby's net and instead of clearing the ball, a Colby player scored an own goal, an instant Continentals victory. Thomas Benson '22 made five saves for the seventh shutout of his career.

Women's soccer (5-2-1, 2-2-1 NESCAC) continued their dominant offensive streak and controlled the pace against Colby from the beginning of their match on Saturday. Three first-year players, Rylie Mutton '23, Ashlyn Gaulin '23, and Caroline Dawson '23 all scored. Cat Gambino '21 also scored two goals during the game. The Mules got only one shot past the Continental goalkeepers Rachel Pike '21 and Julia Rowland '21, for a final score of 5-1.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE